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General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Item 120 of the preliminary list*
Follow-up to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade

Permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade: status of the United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 12 of its resolution 67/108, the General Assembly requested the United Nations Office for Partnerships, through the Secretary-General, to submit a comprehensive report to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the status of the United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial, established with a view to implementing the initiative to erect a permanent memorial in honour of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade.

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

II. Status of the Trust Fund

3. As at 30 June 2013, a total of $1,397,043 had been recorded as income received under the United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial, including voluntary contributions from Member States amounting to $1,220,688 and public and private donations totalling $108,562. The breakdown of the contributions received is provided in the annex to the present report. With respect to expenditures charged to the Trust Fund, an amount of $171,100 has been utilized, primarily for a transfer made to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) ($91,000) in connection with the international design competition for the permanent memorial and for contractual services ($69,400). The Fund had an unspent balance of $1,225,921 as at 30 June 2013.

* A/68/50.

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4. In keeping with the intention of the General Assembly expressed in its resolutions 64/15 and 65/239, the Committee of interested States established to oversee the permanent memorial project (Permanent Memorial Committee) and the United Nations jointly collaborated with UNESCO to launch an international design competition for the permanent memorial. The considerable experience of UNESCO with the Slave Route Project, other international competitions and its worldwide presence through its network of field offices and national commissions provide it with the necessary background for this responsibility.

5. In accordance with a tripartite memorandum of understanding and project document, UNESCO has completed the first phase of the competition by selecting 16 shortlisted designs from 310 proposals received globally. In 2013, in phase two of the competition, an independent international panel of judges, agreed to by the Permanent Memorial Committee, will select seven finalists. Subsequently, the judges will convene in New York to collectively evaluate and select the winning design. The panel of judges comprises: Nadia H. Bakhurji, Saudi Arabia; Hilary Beckles, Barbados; David Boxer, Jamaica; Dominique Fontaine, Canada; Michael Gomez, United States of America; Salah M. Hassan, United States of America; Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq, United States of America.

Annex

United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial: contributions received as at 30 June 2013

(United States dollars)

Donor	*Amount*
Afghanistan	1 000
Antigua and Barbuda	7 500
Argentina	10 000
Australia	150 000
Azerbaijan	25 000
Bahamas	7 500
Barbados	10 000
Belgium	6 267
Belize	2 000
Bhutan	1 000
Botswana	10 000
Brazil	20 000
Burkina Faso	533
Canada	19 342
Chile	5 000
China	20 000
Costa Rica	5 000
Denmark	10 000
Ecuador	5 000
Egypt	5 000
Finland	75 000
Georgia	5 000
Greece	1 278
Grenada	5 000
Guyana	5 000
Haiti	15 000
Honduras	2 000
Iceland	1 000
India	260 600
Indonesia	500
Ireland	10 000
Israel	20 000
Jamaica	7 500
Kuwait	20 000
Libya	20 000
Luxembourg	55 021
Malaysia	10 000

Donor	*Amount*
Malta	500
Mauritius	5 000
Monaco	6 564
Mozambique (Southern African Development Community Group of Ambassadors)	2 500
Namibia	2 000
Netherlands	14 588
New Zealand	10 000
Nicaragua	500
Oman	9 979
Pakistan	25 000
Portugal	32 782
Qatar	20 000
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1 000
Saint Lucia	600
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	5 000
Saudi Arabia	10 000
Slovenia	11 818
South Africa	101 051
Spain	44 615
Sri Lanka	500
Sudan	1 000
Suriname	10 000
Sweden	10 000
Syrian Arab Republic	1 000
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	500
Togo	175
Trinidad and Tobago	10 000
Turkey	17 500
United Arab Emirates	5 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	29 076
Subtotal, Member State donations	**1 220 688**
Ford Foundation	75 000
Private donors	33 562
Subtotal, public/private donations	**108 562**
Interest income	39 345
Other miscellaneous income	28 449
Total	**1 397 043**